

FOR RELEASE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

SGWU NEWS RELEASE

THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL OF SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY
HAS BEEN SENT TO ALL EVENING STUDENTS:

"I regret to announce that it has been found necessary to increase the fees of Evening Division students by 10 per cent for the 1970-71 academic year. The increase was approved by the Board of Governors at a special meeting today.

This is a year of great austerity for the Quebec government, an austerity reflected in the grants to the universities. The initial grant to Sir George Williams left us with a projected deficit of \$1,200,000. Subsequent discussions with the Ministry of Education have resulted in certain adjustments to our grant, but we are still faced with a deficit of more than \$600,000. The University does not possess any capital or other funds out of which to cover this deficit.

The University is following a policy of the strictest economy during the coming year. Our program for hiring new faculty has been cut off despite the unsatisfactory student-faculty ratio. Budgets for supplies, cleaning, travel and a number of other items have been drastically reduced. The experimental program "Explorations" has had to be cancelled.

In addition, on the recommendation of the Ministry of Education, the Board of Governors decided that so far as fee increases are concerned the most suitable action in the present circumstances is to apply a temporary surcharge of 10 per cent to those paid by students of the Evening Division. This will reduce the deficit by \$200,000. In addition, we will study the application of further economy measures.

During the coming year certain academic and administrative departments will move to rented premises, thus easing our pressing space problems. This has been made possible by a special grant from the Department of Education outside the regular operating budget.

It is our hope and present expectation that Sir George Williams will be able to return to its previous fee structure for the 1971-72 academic year".

Michael Sheldon
Assistant to the Principal